

## 12.0 COMMUNITY FACILITIES, SERVICES AND RECREATION

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The *Community Facilities, Services and Recreation Element* of the **Sedona Community Plan** is presented in the following sections:

- 12.1 Key Issues
- 12.2 Recommendations
- 12.3 Action Program

The *Community Facilities, Services and Recreation Element* is a supporting element for many other elements of the **Sedona Community Plan** to illustrate the vision the community has established to augment existing community facilities and services. The *Community Facilities, Services and Recreation Element* of the **Sedona Community Plan** has been prepared to address existing and proposed community facilities, services and recreation needs located within the incorporated area of Sedona.



## 12.1 KEY ISSUES

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In 1990, several issues and problems were identified at community workshops and neighborhood meetings, and an analysis of existing conditions was prepared at the time, in conjunction with the preparation of the **Sedona Community Plan**. Many of the original issues and problems have been addressed, however, some remain outstanding or are now better understood with the issues better articulated. The City's actions and accomplishments regarding past issues are discussed in the *Community Plan Supplement*.

In 1997, the City Council appointed Advisory Committee on Growth Issues identified key problem areas in conjunction with community input that are relevant to community facility needs. A full description of existing community facilities, services and schools is found in the Community Plan supplement and is generally covered in Chapter 2 (*Existing Conditions*) of the Community Plan.

The community is dependent upon private utilities, including water, to keep up with growth and to ensure adequate storage and delivery systems. The City of Sedona has upgraded its wastewater treatment facilities to ensure that adequate capacity and disposal will be provided. The City of Sedona is in the process of connecting many of its residents who have been on septic systems to a sanitary sewer system that is connected to the Sedona Wastewater Treatment Plant. In 2000, a new Wastewater Master Plan was completed to lay out an orderly progression for sewer line installation in existing subdivisions. All new development is required to connect to the City's system.

**An in-depth discussion regarding water supply issues is found in the *Water Resource Element*. More detail regarding wastewater issues is covered in the *Environment Planning Element*.**

The goal of the Information/Communication Infrastructure Foundation" described in the Sedona Focused Future Plan (see *Community Plan Supplement* and *Economic Development Element*) is "to improve the information and communication infrastructure within the Sedona area which is crucial for residents and businesses". It is important that this infrastructure keep pace with the increasing demands in the Sedona area.

The Sedona Airport Master Plan (1999) provides forecasted flight operations through the year 2017.

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Aircraft Flight Operations (Forecast)					
Type	1992	1997	2002	2007	2017
Local	17,444	27,401	31,654	34,047	41,494
Itinerant	8,592	13,496	15,590	16,769	20,438
	<b>26,036</b>	<b>40,897</b>	<b>47,244</b>	<b>50,816</b>	<b>61,932</b>

If these forecasts were to hold, the increase in traffic from 1997 to 2017 would be 51 percent. The Sedona Airport Administration estimates the total number of annual operations was approximately 50,000 in 2001.

Existing aviation noise levels are diminished by the 400-500 foot elevation of Table Top Mountain above the City, and the limited length of the runway.

Even though the environmental characteristics (i.e., elevation, location, geography) of the airport assist in the reduction of noise, and the runway length limits the type and size of aircraft usage, aircraft operations over the City and surrounding area have generated complaints from residents regarding aircraft noise. Through the evaluation of strategies to reduce these noise impacts it is important to recognize that although the Airport Administration may be liable for damage and/or injury caused by excessive noise, their policies are subject to the FAA's "proprietary exception" and may not:

- \$ Interfere with the Federal responsibility for flight safety and efficiency;
- \$ Unjustly discriminate between classes of aircraft;
- \$ Create an "exclusive right" to access the airport;
- \$ Regulate in an arbitrary or unreasonable manner;
- \$ Impose an undue burden on air commerce; or
- \$ Regulate "routes, rates or services" of an air carrier.

The Sedona Citizen's Noise Abatement Committee and the City have endorsed the concept of an Air Traffic Control Tower to address safety and noise issues at the airport.

The Airport Administration and Yavapai County have submitted an application for a tower to the FAA. (see *Environmental Planning Element* for additional details)

In 1999, the Parks and Recreation Department conducted a community-wide survey regarding community recreation facility needs. The following are the top indoor and outdoor recreational needs identified as important to respondents as a result of the survey.

**Indoor Recreation Facility Needs**

Indoor Swimming Pool  
Exercise Fitness Equipment  
Arts/Crafts classroom  
Weight training/cardio vascular center  
Spa & Rehab/hydro-therapy pool  
Aerobic/dance  
Indoor running/walking track  
Teen Recreation room

**Outdoor Recreation Facility Needs**

Walking paths/hiking trails  
Bike paths for transportation  
Picnic Areas  
Beautification areas for sitting  
Outdoor Pool  
Skateboard Park

With the growth experienced in the school district and a resulting increase in District programming, there has been a significant reduction of times available for community recreational programs to be hosted at school district facilities. Use of these facilities for adult and youth community recreation programs have been limited or canceled over the past five years due to the increasing lack of access to district owned facilities for programs other than those sponsored by the school district. Currently, there is a need for additional indoor facilities, such as gymnasiums, multi-purpose rooms, community centers, year-round aquatic facilities, etc.

NOTE: Parks, Trails and Urban Pathways needs and recommendations are covered in the *Open Space Element* of the **Sedona Community Plan**.

## 12.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

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### 12.2.1 Vision, Goals, Objectives/Policies

The Vision Statement, Goals, Objectives developed for the *Community Facilities, Services and Recreation Element* of the **Sedona Community Plan** by the community are presented below.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES, SERVICES AND RECREATION VISION

*Achieve a creative, orderly, efficient, community facilities, services and recreational framework that meets the needs of all age groups. Through enhanced community awareness and a spirit of volunteerism, community facilities can be sensitively and successfully integrated into the natural environment with necessary services implemented at the lowest possible cost to the general public.*

#### **GOAL 1.0 Provide community facilities and services which serve the needs of residents and visitors while respecting the environment.**

##### *Objectives/Policies*

- 1.1 Designate areas where community facilities and services exist, or can be reasonably provided.
- 1.2 Provide cost-effective community facilities, services and recreation that meet the needs of the City, including but not be limited to parks and recreation, police and fire protection, wastewater system, drainage system, storm-water management system, power, communications, and solid waste and recycling system.

#### **GOAL 2.0 Ensure a high level of public health and safety.**

##### *Objectives/Policies*

- 2.1 Maintain a high level of public safety in Sedona that is commensurate with population growth and tourist visitation, in a cost effective manner.
- 2.2 Work with the appropriate agencies to maintain a high level of fire and police protection and health care services commensurate with growth in resident and visitor population in a cost effective manner.
- 2.3 Implement Land Development Code provisions that allow for a comprehensive signage program to provide direction and public information for residents and tourists.
- 2.4 Support residential re-development out of floodway areas.

**GOAL 3.0 Provide for effective, safe, efficient, and economical wastewater disposal and water supply and distribution systems.**

*Objectives/Policies*

- 3.1 Continue to construct a wastewater treatment system and maximize the potential for reuse of effluent and aquifer recharge.
- 3.2 Encourage local water companies to identify and correct systematic and operational deficiencies and ensure maintenance of a comprehensive water distribution system that provides a high quality, safe and plentiful supply of potable water for all residents and businesses of Sedona, as well as for fire protection services.
- 3.3 Retro-fit water systems for fire protection through formation of special improvement districts and private/public partnerships.

**GOAL 4.0 Develop indoor and outdoor parks and recreation facilities to be conveniently located and designed so as to be adaptable to changes in the population, are accessible to all, regardless of race, physical ability and economic status, and provide beauty and functional efficiency to complement both City's natural environment and the needs of its school districts and citizens.**

*Objectives/Policies*

- 4.1 Plan, prioritize, design and construct parks and recreation facilities in relation to citizen activity interests, appropriate educational facilities, population growth and composition and user demand.

**GOAL 5.0 Serve all citizens throughout the year with a variety of recreation program opportunities in which to enrich their lives through the use of areas and facilities, leadership resources, and special guidance or assistance services for individuals and groups.**

*Objectives/Policies*

- 5.1 Assist citizens in identifying desirable recreation activities.
- 5.2 Develop indoor and outdoor facilities and program activities that help citizens develop skills in leisure time living that help raise their level of health, fitness and happiness.

- 5.3 Plan for and conduct community-wide events that serve Sedona's citizens and visitors alike.
- 5.4 Aid in developing Community stability by providing an environment that is conducive to wholesome living and Community life.
- 5.5 The Parks and Recreation Commission should assist in identifying quality of life issues and become an advocate for enhancing the community's recreational opportunities.

**GOAL 6.0 Seek sufficient resources to support the improvement, maintenance, and operation of recreation facilities and the planning, acquisition and development of these facilities.**

*Objectives/Policies*

- 6.1 Monitor the availability of state and federal funding and apply for grants, as appropriate, to supplement the financing of acquisition and recreational facility development.
- 6.2 Work with the Sedona City Council to insure local public funding support for recreational facility development.

**GOAL 7.0 Implement alternative funding mechanisms to pay for needed capital improvements.**

*Objectives/Policies*

- 7.1 Form special improvement districts to provide for improvements such as utility undergrounding, uptown parking, storm drainage and water system upgrades in specific areas.
- 7.2 Evaluate public/private partnerships, private foundations and support on-going development agreements.
- 7.3 Explore alternative tax options.

**GOAL 8.0 Encourage the development of recreational facilities, meaningful public service, and job opportunities for youth.**

**GOAL 9.0 Encourage high standards in ethics and morality for all citizens, with a special emphasis on the City's youth.**

**GOAL 10.0 Encourage a climate of acceptance for the free exercise of a wide diversity of religious and spiritual activities.**

## **12.2.2 Specific Recommendations**

### **Community Facilities and Services Principles**

1. Create a high level of public safety (i.e., fire and police protection) facilities and services to provide no more than five-minute emergency response times to any location within the City. A 4-minute response time is ideal, and a nationally accepted industry standard for public safety services.
2. Provide a high level of cost-effective municipal facilities located in or near a “Focused Activity Center” (*see Land Use Element*) to provide for a balanced mix of municipal and non-municipal uses.
3. Provide a high level of comprehensive health care and emergency medical facilities to serve the diverse needs of the community.
4. Determine the balance of aquifer recharge and extraction to ensure the continued supply of potable water.
5. Allow for the continued development of the City sewer system to ensure the future high quality of both surface and subsurface water.
6. Continue to allocate approximately 20% of the Capital Budget to quality of life improvements (current policy).
7. The City should continue to maintain and update if necessary, its “Disaster Response Plan” to respond to and recover from emergency situations and disasters.



## 12.3 ACTION PROGRAM

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The Action Program for the *Community Facilities, Services and Recreation Element* of the **Sedona Community Plan** lists the specific action necessary to implement the Community Plan.

The Planning and Zoning Commission should review and provide recommendations to the City Council for revising the following Action Program on an annual basis in order to continue to pursue implementation of the **Sedona Community Plan** in an expeditious manner and to coincide with the annual strategic planning and Flexible Capital Budget process.

### Future Actions

- Jointly work with potential medical service providers to program, plan and locate future Sedona medical and related facilities to serve the needs of all community members.
- Work with the Sedona Fire Department to update their Master Fire Facilities and Services Plan to ensure that adequate fire protection is provided to all City residents and businesses.
- Jointly work with the Sedona Library Board to determine appropriate adjacent land uses and the coordination of a multi-modal (i.e., vehicular, shuttle transit, bicycle, pedestrian) circulation system to access the library.
- Initiate and implement a phased City Park and Recreation Facility Capital Development Program to develop a comprehensive, yet diverse, recreational network that is accessible to, and meets the needs of all Sedona residents and visitors.
- Explore further development of partnerships with local school districts/private interest for the joint use of recreational facilities available to all citizens.